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RURAL DISTRICT OF TENTERDEN

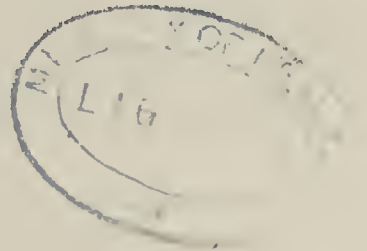
KENT

ANNUAL REPORTS OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1953





TENTERDEN (KENT) RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF  
HEALTH AND CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR  
THE YEAR 1953.

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1953.

The Registrar General estimated that the mid-year Home Population was 7135 - an increase of 77 over that of the previous year.

The number of live-births was 133 - an increase of 7 over that of 1952, and the birth-rate was accordingly 18.63; adjusted by the Registrar General's Comparability Factor for comparison with other Districts this becomes 20.30. This higher than average birth rate e.g. England and Wales was 15.5, was therefore maintained from 1952, having regard to the fact that the figures are small for statistical purposes.

The number of deaths was 85 and the crude death-rate was accordingly 11.91; adjusted by the Registrar General's Comparability Factor this rate becomes 9.76. The largest number of deaths was caused by Heart and Vascular or Circulatory Diseases, mostly amongst the aged, as would naturally be expected.

Cancer, also as usual, caused the second highest number of deaths and it is noteworthy that Cancer of the Lung, with which the inhalation of cigarette smoke has been associated as a possible cause, caused 5 deaths (all males - aged 49, 59, 65, 70 and 71 years) out of the total of 13 deaths.

There were 9 deaths due to Pneumonia but those, too, were mostly amongst the aged when treatment is less successful. There was no other exceptional incidence.

Amongst infants under one year of age, there were 4 deaths, due to Prematurity (2 deaths), Broncho-pneumonia, and Congenital Hydrocephalus, respectively, and the infantile mortality rate was accordingly 30.08.

No deaths occurred amongst mothers due to Pregnancy, Childbirth or Abortion.

There were no deaths due to Infectious Disease, nor was there any unusual incidence.

A minor epidemic of Measles occurred, 78 cases having been notified. Fortunately Measles, per se, is not a serious disease, as it is impossible to control its spread amongst susceptible children, but occasionally its chief complication, Broncho-pneumonia can be serious in children, whose resistance is low or who are suffering from another illness. In these instances, Gamma Globulin, which is available from the County Laboratory, should be used to prevent or attenuate the attack. Encephalomyelitis is a very rare complication.



There was also a minor epidemic of Whooping Cough, 51 cases having been notified. Like Measles, it is most infectious before it is usually identified, and for this reason is very difficult to control. Children suffering from the disease should be strictly isolated at home, from other children, from the first suspicious signs or symptoms of the disease and isolation should be maintained for 5 weeks. Occasionally after 5 weeks, the whoop and the paroxysmal cough persist, but the child should not be infectious at this stage. Susceptible children, who have been exposed to infection, particularly in their own homes should be excluded from the Primary Schools for at least 14 days and during this period should not be allowed to come into contact with any child suffering from the disease. It is hoped that the efficacy of immunisation will be definitely established, as with that against Diphtheria, to provide a certain means of control and eventual elimination.

One case of Acute Poliomyelitis occurred. The patient was a male, aged 21 years who arrived home on vacation (28th December) during the invasive phase of the disease. Infection was, therefore, not contracted within the District, and enquiries relating to possible contact with cases in the other Districts in which he had resided five weeks prior to the onset, were negative. The illness was spinal in type, involving all four limbs and the muscles of respiration and having regard to its severity, the patient has made a reasonably satisfactory recovery.

No other cases of serious Infectious Diseases were notified.

Four new cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis were notified and there were three deaths. There were no cases of non-Respiratory Tuberculosis, which is an index of the safety of the milk supplies in the District. Unlike the other infectious diseases, there is no clear cut incubation period for the Tubercle Bacillus, and long periods may elapse between infection and the first signs or symptoms of the disease. For this reason, it is difficult to trace the original source of infection, but in many cases, however, a latent or open case of infection is found within the family circle or within groups where the patient is employed. Mass Radiography has found many latent cases in the Country and should be of great value in eliminating many unsuspected sources of infection. B.C.G. vaccination should also be a powerful preventive weapon in the future.

In summary, the vital statistics of the District, although small for statistical comparisons, indicate that the health of the population was not subjected to unusual influences and may be regarded as having been satisfactory.

In conclusion, I wish to thank you for your interest and assistance, the staff for their efficient co-operation throughout the year.

Your obedient Servant,

J. MARSHALL.

SECTION A.STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT  
FOR 1953

Area:- 38,002 acres.

Registrar-General's Estimate of:-

The Resident Population	...	...	7,135
Number of Inhabited Houses According to the Rate Books	...	...	2,422
Rateable Value:-	...	...	£34,887
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	£140.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Tenterden Rural District is predominantly agricultural in its interests - there are only a few light industries, and generally, social conditions are satisfactory.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

		<u>Total</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>		<u>Tenterden Rural District</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>
1.	Live Births	133	67	66	Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	18.63	15.5
	(a) Legitimate	127	63	64			
	(b) Illegitimate	6	4	2			
2.	Stillbirths	4	2	2	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	29.20	22.4
	(a) Legitimate	4	2	2			
	(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-			
3.	Deaths	85	39	46	Death rate per 1,000 resident population	11.91	11.4
4.	Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	-	0.76
5.	Deaths of Infants Under One Year of Age	4	1	3			
	(a) Legitimate	3	1	2			
	(b) Illegitimate	1	-	1			
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births					30.08	26.8
	Rate re legitimate infants					23.06	
	Rate re illegitimate infants					166.6	
6.	Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...		13	
	Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...		-	
	Deaths from Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	...	...	...		-	
	Deaths from Measles	...	...	...		-	

The following cases of Infectious Diseases were notified during the year, 1953.

Whooping Cough	...	...	51
Measles	...	...	78
Erysipelas	...	...	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	1



CAUSES OF DEATH IN TENTERDEN RURAL DISTRICT DURING  
1953

ALL CAUSES					Males	Females
					39	46
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	2	-
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	1	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	-	-
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	-	-
8.	Measles	...	...	...	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasytic diseases	...	...	...	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	1	2
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	5	-
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	-	-
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	-	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	2	2
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	-	-
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	-	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	8	9
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	4	4
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	-	2
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	5	14
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	1	-
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	1	1
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	6	3
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	-	1
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	-	-
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	1	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	-	-
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	1	-
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	-	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	-	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	1	3
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	-	-
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	-	1
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	-	-
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	-	-

Immunisation againsts Diphtheria, 1953.

The following is a return of the number of children under the age of 15 years on 31st December, 1953, who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date (i.e. at any time since 1st January, 1939).

Year of Birth	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	Total
Last complete course of injections (whether primary or booster) 1949 - 1953.	46	53	18	61	62	48	49	57	77	86	68	115	94	97	14	925
1948 or earlier	6	25	34	18	6	23	31	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	157

Immunisation against Diphtheria and Vaccination against Smallpox, 1953.

The following is a return of (A) the number of children resident in the Rural District of Tenterden who were immunised against diphtheria and (B) the number of persons who were vaccinated against smallpox, during the year ended 31st December, 1953:-

(A) <u>Diphtheria Immunisation</u>																
<u>Year of Birth</u>	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	Total
Primary Inoculations	14	89	8	4	2	2	6	13	12	7	4	8	-	-	-	169
Re-inforcing Inoculations	-	-	-	-	2	45	30	33	22	23	30	33	1	1	-	220
(B) <u>Vaccination</u>																
Primary Vaccination	54	28	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Before 1939 1
Re-Vaccination	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	4
															Total	84
																5



# TUBERCULOSIS

## New Cases and Mortality 1953

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths				Total Cases on Register			
	Respiratory		Non- Respiratory		Respiratory		Non- Respiratory		Respiratory		Non- Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26	33	10	4
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	2	2	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

SECTION C.SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA1. Water Supply

Three water undertakings supplied the District during 1953.

(a) The Mid Kent Water Company supplied the Parishes of Appledore, Kenardington, Woodchurch and part of High Halden and part of Biddenden.

(b) Tenterden R.D.C. supplied the Parishes of Wittersham and Stone; this undertaking was however, integrated with the Mid Kent Water Company on the 1st of April, 1954.

(c) The Cranbrook District Water Company supplied the Parishes of Newenden, Rolvenden, part of High Halden and part of Biddenden.

	<u>Bacteriological</u>		<u>Chemical</u>	
	<u>No.</u>	<u>Results</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Results</u>
Raw Water	4	4 Unsatisfactory	3	3 Unsatisfactory
Treated Water	20	12 Satisfactory	10	10 Satisfactory
		8 Unsatisfactory		

Generally, the waters were of satisfactory bacteriological and chemical quality, and appropriate action was taken in the case of the unsatisfactory samples.

2. Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

Prior to 1953, only Wittersham and Rolvenden Layne were provided with main sewerage and disposal plants. During the year however, the Council, having obtained Ministry approval, began work on schemes for half of Appledore and half of Rolvenden, as were awaiting financial approval to commence the schemes for Biddenden, Woodchurch, High Halden and Newenden. In these villages, ditches and watercourses are still being fouled by sewage discharges from septic tanks and cesspools and are in fact open sewers which constitute a potential source of danger to the Public Health apart from other unpleasant features associated with them.

3. Housing

The number of houses built by the Council during the year was 34. Informal notices for repairs to 35 houses and statutory notices for repairs to 3 houses were served. The number of houses closed was 3.

Rural Housing Survey

## Summary of classifications at 31-12-53

Category 1.	...	...	...	...	448
" 2.	...	...	...	...	654
" 3 & 4	...	...	...	...	608
" 5	...	...	...	...	118
					-----
					1,828
					-----

The most recent waiting list of applicants for Council houses is 271

4. Hop-pickers' Camps.

The number of Camps occupied during the season was 15, accommodating approximately 1,000 persons. These were inspected before, during and after picking and the appropriate bye-law notices were issued. The total number of huts in the Camps was 350; of these 90 are new, constructed from breeze or concrete blocks with corrugated asbestos roofs; the remainder were constructed from weather-boarding and corrugated iron. 11 of the Camps have main water supplies from stand-pipes. Receptacles for refuse are provided and emptied by the farmers. Brick fire-places are erected at most of the Camps but many Campers still prefer an open-fire for cooking. The earth-closets were generally kept in a satisfactory condition. The total number of inspections made was 62.

5. Milk Supplies.

The number of registered Distributors was 6 and the number of registered Dairies was 3.

Milk Sampling.

	<u>Samples taken</u>	<u>No. of unsatisfactory samples</u>
Pasteurised	24	1
Tuberculin-tested	33	14
T.T. Pasteurised	3	-
Biological examination of raw milks	4	-

6. Meat and other Foods

There were five private slaughterhouses where emergency slaughtering was done during the year, (see table) and 15 food-preparing places and 14 restaurant and hotel kitchens; all of these were regularly visited by the Inspectors.

Ice Cream

No. of Producer-Retailers	...	1
No. of Retailers	...	24

Sampling:-

Grade 1 ... 21.	Grade 3 ... 2.
Grade 2 ... 8.	Grade 4 ... Nil.



Appropriate action was taken in respect of the unsatisfactory samples; no pathogenic organisms were however, cultivated in any sample.

No food-poisoning cases were notified during the year.

Food condemned during the year.

6 cwts. 3 Qtrs. 3 lbs.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
No. killed	-	-	3	41	28
No. inspected	-	-	3	41	28
<u>All diseases except tuberculosis</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	1	3	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	6	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis.	-	-	33%	22%	4%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	-	-	-	-	-

7. Rodent Control

Survey of the District continued throughout the year, necessary treatments being carried out by the rodent operator, where required. Complaints were also dealt with as received at the Office.

The total number of infestations discovered as a result of survey work was 255, and the number found following reports to the office 71.

306 treatments were carried out.

The total number of inspections by the operator was 1,759.



8. Sanitary Inspection of the District.

Details of Inspection work carried out:-

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Visits</u>	<u>Defects</u>
Bakehouses	7	31	1
Slaughterhouses	5	71	-
Other food preparing premises (not including ice cream)	15	56	2
Factories	48	76	-
Workshops	-	-	-
Workplaces	5	16	-
Offensive trades	-	-	-

Housing

Overcrowding	7	
Keeping of animals	2	
Sanitary accommodation (insufficient or defective)	22	
Drainage (reconstructed or repaired)	35	
Cesspools (abolished)	1	
(repaired)	10	
(emptied)	35	(arranged with Contractors on behalf of property owners).
Offensive accumulations	9	
Refuse receptacles	-	
Yard paving	-	
Dampness	22	
Roofs and rainwater pipes	13	
Floors	7	
Walls	14	
Windows and ventilation	20	
Baths, lavatory basins, sinks	5	
Water supplies	16	
Miscellaneous	39	

Total number of inspections by Sanitary Inspectors - 2,665

FACTORIES ACT, 19371. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health  
(including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises  (1)	Number on Register  (2)	Number of		
		Inspections  (3)	Written Notices  (4)	Occupiers prosecuted  (5)
i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	19	40	-	-
ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	29	36	-	-
iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	5	16	-	-
TOTAL	53	92	-	-

## 2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars  (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which Prosecutions were Instituted  (6)
	Found  (2)	Remedied  (3)	Referred To H.M Inspector  (4)	By H.M. Inspec- tor  (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	-	-	-	-	-
(a) insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-

